

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takashi KAMEI, et al.
Title: SENSOR SYSTEM AND CONNECTOR USED THEREFOR
Appl. No.: 10/754,552
Filing Date: 01/12/2004
Examiner: F. Figueroa
Art Unit: 2833

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PETITION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of a document known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed document is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

As relevance of the foreign-language document, JP 04-033288, provided below is a partial translation of relevant portions.

Claim:

Socket apparatus for control device comprising;
socket unit 1, having individual connection terminals 7, wherein the front side is the plug-in connection pane of the control device main body 4, and the outer side, which faces the front side, is equipped with socket part 8 for common line connection; and
end unit 2 equipped with socket part 10 for common line connection on one outer side and common connection terminal parts 9;
wherein said end unit 2 is connected to a certain number of socket units 1 enabling the connection between the common line to each control device main body 4 and the external devices via common connection terminal parts 9 of end unit 2.

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Effect of the Invention

As stated above, in this structure, a socket apparatus which can attach necessary number of control device main bodies is achieved by combining a certain number of socket units and one end unit. Since the connection between the common line and external device is done via common connection terminal parts of the end unit, the wiring process is easy.

Further, since each socket unit does not have the terminal parts for common line connection on itself, the structure is simplified and the apparatus can be smaller.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP § 609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 23, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/754,552
				Filing Date	01/12/2004
				First Named Inventor	Takashi KAMEI
				Group Art Unit	2833
				Examiner Name	F. Figueroa
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	017700-0158

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A1	JP	04-033288		OMRON CORP.	03-18-1992		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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